

**"INTERCHANGE BETWEEN JAPANESE FOREIGN OFFICE
AND BRITISH ON MUTUAL RELATIONSHIPS."**

Note from Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs containing message to his Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has been laid before Prime Minister.

Prime Minister is gratified to observe that Monsieur Matsuoka sees no reason to apprehend any untoward developments in East Asia, and notes with satisfaction his assurance about peaceful intentions of Japanese Government.

Since Monsieur Matsuoka, for his part, makes reference to "movements of British and American Governments in their attempt to expedite and enlarge warlike preparations", Prime Minister would allow himself to offer certain observations which he hopes may remove any misunderstanding of position of H. M. 's Government.

There is no question of H. M. 's Government making any attack upon or committing any act of aggression against Japan; and Prime Minister is sure that this also represents intentions of United States, though of course he cannot claim to speak for them. All preparations which are being made in Oriental Regions by Great Britain and United States are of a purely defensive character. Incidentally, Prime Minister would wish to assure Monsieur Matsuoka that concern which Mr. Eden expressed to Japanese Ambassador was not based exclusively on reports from H. M. 's Ambassador in Tokyo, but on the course of events in Far East and on a study of the speeches of Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs himself.

Turning now to the war in progress in Europe between Great Britain and Germany it will be within Monsieur Matsuoka's recollection that, before outbreak of war, H.M. 's Government made every offer, by confession and reasonable dealing, to avert hostilities. That is recognised throughout the world, and indeed the Government of the day in this country were severely criticised for having travelled too far along this road. Their efforts were unavailing, and German Government, by attacking Poland after so many breaches of faith and of treaties, chose arbitrament of war. H.M.'s Government, having thus been forced to enter upon this grievous quarrel, have no thought but to carry it to a victorious conclusion. Naturally it takes some time for the peaceful communities which compose British Empire to overtake military preparations of countries which have long been exulting in their martial might, and adapting their industries to war production. But even now H.M.'s Government feel well assured of their ability to maintain themselves against all comers, and they have every reason to hope that within a few months they will, with rapidly increasing supply of materials which is coming from United States, be overwhelmingly strong.

Monsieur Matsuoka makes allusion to help which this country receiving from United States of America. Prime Minister would observe that that help is being given for very reason that battle which this country is waging is for overthrow of system of lawlessness and violence abroad and cold, cruel tyranny at home which constitutes German Naziism regime.

It is this system that people of British Empire, with sympathy and support of whole English-speaking world, are resolved to extirpate from continent of Europe. H.M.'s Government have no designs upon integrity of independence of any other country, and they seek no advantage for themselves except satisfaction of having rid the earth of a hateful terror and of restoring freedom to the many insulted and enslaved nations of European continent. This they would regard as greatest honour that could reward them, and the crowning episode in what, for western world, is a long continuity of history.

Monsieur Matsuoka, with loftiest motives, has hinted at his readiness to act as the mediator between the belligerents. Prime Minister is sure that, in light of what he has said and upon for the reflection, Monsieur Matsuoka will understand that in a cause of this kind, not in any way concerned with territory, trade or material gains, but affecting whole future of humanity, there can be no question of compromise or parley. It would be a matter of profoundest regret to H.M.'s Government if by any circumstance Japan and this country were to become embroiled, and this not only because of their recollection of the years during which two countries were happily united in alliance, but also because such a melancholy event would both spread and prolong the war without however in opinion of H.M.'s Government altering its conclusion.

Foreign Office, W. 1.

24th February. 1941

C E R T I F I C A T EW.D.C. No. _____
I.P.S. No. 702Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, ODO Nagaharu hereby certify that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the following capacity: Assistant Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto attached consisting of 4 pages, dated 24 Feb, 1941, and described as follows: Conversation between Prime Minister Mr. Churchill and Ambassador Mr. Shigemitsu, on Feb. 24, 1941 (in English)

I further certify that the attached record and document is an official document of the Japanese Government, and that it is part of the official archives and files of the following named ministry or department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or any other official designation of the regular location of the document in the archives or files):

Foreign MinistrySigned at Tokyo on this
1st day of Oct., 1946./s/ Nagaharu Odo
Signature of Official
SEALWitness: /s/ T. YamamotoAssistant Chief Archives Section
Official CapacityStatement of Official Procurement

I, Richard H. Larsh, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above certification was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this
1st day of Oct., 1946.Witness: /s/ T/4 Takio Tomuchi/s/ Richard H. Larsh
NAME
Investigator, I.P.S.
Official Capacity

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Ex 1049

英國外務大臣宛ノメツセーシヲ含ム日本外務大臣ノ覺書ハ、首相ノ下ニ提出サレタ。

首相ハ、松岡氏ガ極東ニ於テ何等不測ノ事態發生ヲ懸念スベキ理由ナシトセルコトニ對シ満足ノ意ヲ表シ、且ツ同氏ガ日本政府ノ平和的意圖ニ付確言セラル多トシ居居ル。

松岡氏トシテハ「設備ノ促進強化ヲ企圖スル英米政府ノ動キ」ニ言及セルヲ以テ首相ハ英國政府ノ立場ニ對スル誤解ヲ拂拭シ得ベキ或種ノ見解ヲ披瀝意嚮ヲ有シテキル。

英國政府ガ日本政府ニ對シ攻撃ヲ加ヘ、或ハ侵畧的行爲ニ出ヅルガ如キコトハアリ得ベカラザルトコロデアル。而シテ首相ハ、敢ヘテアメリカ合衆國代辯ヲナスモノニ非ザルモ、恐ラク同國モ同一ノ意圖ヲ有スルモノト確信シテキル、英米ノ手ニヨツテ東洋地域内ニ爲サレツツアル準備ハ凡テ純防衛的性質ノモノデアル。コレニ附隨シテ、首相ガ松岡氏ニ確言セント欲スルコトハ即チ「イーデシー」氏ガ日本大使ニ對シテ表明セルトコロノ懸念ハ單ニ駐日英大使ノ報告ニノミ基イタモノデハナク、極東ニ於ケル事件ノ推移ト日本外務大臣ノ演說ヲ研究シタ結果ト基イタモノデアルト云フコトデアル。

次ニ現ニヨーロッパニ於テ行ハレツツアル英獨間

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ノ戦争ニツイテデアルガ、戦争勃發前、英政府ガ
護歩ト妥當ナル處理ニヨツテ戦争行爲ヲ回避スベク
アラユル申出ヲ爲シタコトハ松岡氏ノ記憶ニモ存ス
ルトコロデアラウ。コノコトハ全世界ノ認メルトコ
ロデアアル、而シテ英政府ノ時ノ政府ハ、コノ道ニ沿ウ
テ余リニモ長イ旅ヲシ過ギタ、痛烈ナ批判ノ受ケ
タノデアアル。彼等ノ努力ハ水港ニ歸シ、獨逸政府ハ
幾多ノ信儀ト條約ヲ蹂躪シテポーランドニ攻メヲ加
ヘルコトニ依ツテ、裁決ヲ戦争ニ求メタ。英政府
ハ、カクシテコノ非慘ナル争ヒニ突入スベク余儀ナ
レタ以上、最早ヤコノ争ヒヲ終局ノ勝利ニ導ク以外
ニハ何事ヲモ考ヘテキナイ。英帝國ヲ構式スル平和
的ナ社會ガ、多年ソノ武力ヲ誇リ、ソノ産業ヲ軍需
生産ニ適合セシメルタメ努力シ來ツタ諸國ノ軍備ニ
追ヒツクタメニハ、若キ時ヲ要スルコトハ素ヨリ
賤ヲ挨タナイ。シカシナガラ今日ニ於テモ英國政府
ハ如何ナル侵略者ニ對シテモ自己ヲ守リ得ル能力ノ
アルコトニ自信ガアリ且ツ二、三ヶ月中ニハアメリカ
カ合衆國ヨリノ供給物資ノ急増ニヨリ、壓倒的ニ強
カトナリ得コトノ確信シテキル。

松岡氏ハ英國カアメリカ合衆國ヨリ受ケツツアル
援助ニ言及シテキル。首相ハコノ援助ノ與ヘアタヘ
ツツアル理由ハ英國ノ限ヒツツアル戦争ガ獨逸ナチ

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主義政體ノ本質トモイフベキ海外ニ於ケル不法、暴行並ニ國內ニ於ケル冷酷ナル專制政治ノ制度ヲ打破スルタメニ行ハレテラルカラデアルト認メテキル。

英帝國國民ガ世界全基盤諸國ノ同情ト支持ヲ得テ、ヨーロッパ大陸ヨリ根絶セシメント決意セルトコロノモノハ實ニコノ制度デアアル。英國政府ハ、他ノ如何ナル國家ノ獨立保全ニ對シテモ害意ヲ有スルモノデハナク、憎ムベキ恐怖ヲコノ地上ヨリ取り除キ、ヨーロッパ大陸ニ於ケル幾多ノ侮辱セラレ奴隸化サレタ國民ノ自由ヲ恢復スルコトガ出來レバ之ニ越シタ満足ハナク夫レ以外ニハ、自己ノタメニ何等ノ利益ヲモ求メルモノデハナイ。彼等ハコレヲ以テ自己ニ報イラルベキ最大ノ名譽デアリ且又西歐諸國ノ永キ歴史ノ繼續ヲ保ツベキ先榮アル神話的條件デアルト見做スデアラウ。

松岡氏ハ最も高邁ナル動機ヲ以テ交戦國間ノ仲裁者トシテ行動スル用意アルコトラ示唆シタ。首相ハ松岡氏ノ言ニ徴シ、又熟考ノ結果松岡氏ガ領土、貿易、物質的利得等ニ何等關係ナクシカモ人類ノ全將來ニ影響ヲ及ボスベキ此ノ種ノ事柄ニ關シテハ妥協、商談等ノ預地ガアリ得サルコトラ諒解セラレルコトト確信シテキル。若シ假リニ何等カノ事情ニ依ツテ日英兩國間ニ紛争ヲ生ズル如キコトガアレバ、ソレ

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ハ英國政府ノ最モ遺憾トスルトコロデアアル蓋シコレ
ハ、兩國ガ幸福ナル同盟關係ニアツタ往年ヲ同損セ
シメルノミデナク、カカル痛マシキ出來意ガ英國政
府ノ意嚮ハ如ク戦争終結ニ關シテハ何等變更ナカル
ベシトスルモ、戦争ヲ擴大シ永ビカセルモノト思ハ
レルカラデアアル。

外務省 W I.

一九四一年二月二四日

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證 明 書

「ワシントン」文書用 第 號
國 際 繪 察 部 第七〇二號

典據及ビ公正ニ關スル證明

余、尾戸長春ハ余ガ下記ノ資格ニ於テ、即チ外務省文書課長代理トシテ、日本政府ト公的關係ニ在ルモノナルコト、竝ニ該官吏トシテ余ガ茲ニ添附セラレタル、四頁ヨリ成ル、千九百四十一年ノ昭和十六年ノ二月二十四日附、下記趣名、即チ「チアチル」重光會談（二月二十四日、英文ノ文書ノ保管ニ任ジ居ルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。

余ハ更ニ添附ノ記録及ビ文書ガ日本政府ノ公文書ナルコト、竝ニ右ガ下記名稱ノ省又ハ部局ノ公式書類及ビ綴ノ一部ナルコトヲ證明ス。（オアラバ綴巻又ハ引用、其ノ他公式書類又ハ綴ニ於ケル該文書ノ成規所在ノ公式名稱ヲモ特記スベシ）

千九百四十六年ノ昭和二十一年ノ十月一日

東京ニ於テ署名

當該官吏署名欄 尾 戸 長 春

右ノ者ノ公的資格 外務省文書課長代理

證 人 山 本 利 忠

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公式入手ニ關スル證明

余、RICHARD H. LARSH へ、余が聯合國最高指揮官
總司令部ニ關係アルモノナルコト、竝ニ上記題名ノ
文書ハ余ガ公務上、日本政府ノ上記署名官吏ヨリ入
手シタルモノナルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。

千九百四十六年ノ昭和二十一年ノ十月一日

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